DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 215 398 EA 014 497

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TITLE Parent and Student Attitudes toward Magnet Schools--Do Decision Makers Care?
PUB DATE Feb 82
NOTE 73p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association (Austin, TX, February 11-13, 1982).

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Educational Quality; Elementary Secondary Education; *Magnet Schools; *Parent Attitudes; Questionnaires; Racial Composition; School Desegregation; *Student Attitudes; Student Transportation; Tables (Data); Transfer Students
IDENTIFIERS *Houston Independent School District TX

ABSTRACT

A questionnaire survey of parents and students in the Houston (Texas) Independent School District (HISD) sought their assessment of the magnet schools program started by HISD in 1975 to comply with a court desegregation order. Respondents included 1,310 parents (of 20,000 surveyed) and 8,675 elementary and secondary students (of 12,000 surveyed). Data were gathered on parental race or ethnic group, number of children, occupational location and transportation methods, and knowledge and attitudes about HISD's magnet schools, as well as on student grade level, sex, race or ethnic group, school transfer status, school transportation methods, and attitudes about magnet schools and the district's regular schools. Tabulation of responses for both magnet-school and non-magnet-school groups indicate, among other things, that both magnet-school students and the parents of such students feel that magnet schools provide a better education than regular schools. The results also show that parents of non-magnet-school children do not have the level of knowledge about the magnet schools that HISD desires. Attached to the document are copies of the parent questionnaires and lengthy tables presenting detailed survey results. (Author/RW)

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Parent and Student Attitudes toward Magnet Schools - Do Decision Makers Care?

Cheryl Stanley
Houston Independent School District

A paper prepared for presentation at
The Annual Meeting of The Southwest
Educational Research Association,
February 11-13, 1982, in Austin

EA 014 497

Parent and Student Attitudes Toward Magnet Schools--Do Decision Makers Care?

Cheryl Stanley
Houston Independent School District

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is a large urban school district with 194,000 students. Of these 45% are Black, 28% are Hispanic, and 27% are White and other races. The HISD was placed under its current court order to desegregate its schools in 1970. To comply with this order the HISD implemented equi-distant zoning for elementary schools, geographical capacity for secondary schools, majority-to-minority transfers, the Singleton ratio for faculties, and the pairing of twenty-two elementary schools. In 1975, the courts accepted the HISD Magnet School Plan as an alternative to pairing. Magnet Schools opened in two phases; Phase I included 34 programs and the next year Phase II added 12 more programs for a total of 46 programs. The HISD Magnet School Program has grown to 63 programs during the 1980-81 school year, one of the largest in the country. Over 69,000 students are involved in Magnet School programs.

There are currently 38 elementary Magnet programs, 11 middle school/junior high programs and 14 senior high programs. Magnet specialty areas include, but are not limited to, music and fine arts, Montessori, Vanguard (gifted and talented), ecology and outdoor education, math/science, engineering, physical development, and petro-chemical.

After five years of implementation, a Task Force of approximately 150 HISD staff members, community and business representatives was created to assess the present Magnet School Program and provide recommendations to the Board of Education for decision making purposes. As one of the six sub-committees of the Task Force, the Research Committee was asked by the Program Committee and the Line Interface and Special Strategies Committee to survey parents and students in the district to determine their opinions and attitudes regarding the Magnet School Program's strengths and weaknesses.

METHOD

The parent survey was developed first. The Task Force Research Committee submitted the questions it wanted addressed. After the parent survey was mailed out the student surveys were developed using the parent survey questions as a model.

The parent survey was completed and distributed in February, 1981. A month later two forms of the student survey were prepared, one for elementary (grades four through six only) and one for secondary. The format of each survey was similar, the questions varying depending on their relevance to the group being surveyed. The first section asked for demographic information from each group. Students were asked if they rode the school bus and how long it took them to get to school. All groups were asked about their familiarity with the Magnet School concept and were asked how they received

their information. The second section consisted of a series of statements to which respondents were asked to mark if they agreed or disagreed with the statement, were neutral concerning it, or did not know. These statements dealt with topics such as the quality of education provided by Magnet Schools as opposed to regular schools, the Magnet specialties offered, riding a bus for an hour or more to attend a Magnet School, and making friends with students of different races. The last section included three open-ended questions asking each respondent to list the major strengths and weaknesses of the Magnet School Program, and for parents, the things that would cause them to enroll their child in a Magnet School or for students, the things that would cause them to enroll.

A random sample of approximately ten percent of the district's parents (20,000) was selected through use of the computer using the student master file. The surveys were sent to parents through the mail and included a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return purposes. A total of 1,310 surveys were returned. Many surveys were returned unopened due to incorrect addresses.

The sample of approximately 3,000 students in each of the four subgroups, elementary Magnet, elementary non-Magnet, secondary Magnet and secondary non-Magnet, was selected. For the elementary non-Magnet student sample specific classrooms were chosen randomly through use of the computer. For the secondary non-Magnet sample, the number of classrooms per grade level per school was selected randomly through the computer. The principals were given the number of classrooms per grade level that was needed from their school and were allowed to choose the specific classes with the stipulation that each class have at least 25 to 30 students.

For the elementary Magnet sample, the number of classrooms per grade level was randomly selected using all Magnet Schools. In Magnet Schools with add-on programs (the entire school is Magnet) principals were asked to choose the specific classes within the guidelines given (number per grade level). In Magnet Schools with school within a school programs (a limited number of students are Magnet) principals were told the number of students per grade level and asked to select entire Magnet classes which would closely total the number needed. The same process was used for the secondary Magnet student sample. Completed student surveys totaled 8,675 with 2,286 elementary magnet, 2,171 elementary non-Magnet, 2,025 secondary Magnet and 2,193 secondary non-Magnet.

Overall responses of the six groups Magnet and non-Magnet parents, Magnet and non-Magnet elementary students and Magnet and non-Magnet secondary students were tallied and percentages calculated. Responses were also tabulated by race for all groups and for students by whether or not they transferred to the school or were zoned there, whether or not the student rides the bus, and on the secondary level, the socioeconomic level of the school. The following results are general findings. Attached to this paper are the detailed results which are available for your perusal.

RESULTS

In general the survey responses indicate that Magnet parents have confidence in Magnet Schools and feel their children are receiving a better education in a Magnet School than in a regular school. This finding is supported by the following results. Of the 405 Magnet parents surveyed, 77% agreed that their children learn more in a Magnet School than in a regular school; 75% agreed that the Magnet School Program is a good solid educational program and 81% agreed that the specialized programs provided by Magnet Schools hold their children's interest in their education.

When asked if involvement in a Magnet School Program would increase their children's chances for further education, 62% of the 203 White Magnet parents agreed, 82% of the 131 Black Magnet parents agreed and 89% of the 45 Hispanic Magnet parents agreed.

Fifty-five percent (55%) of the White Magnet parents agreed that their children would benefit from the multiethnic environment provided by a Magnet School Program. This was agreed with by 76% of the Black Magnet parents and 83% of the Hispanic Magnet parents.

When asked if they would be willing to have their children travel some distance to a Magnet School to participate in a strong educational program, 46% of the White Magnet parents agreed, 69% of the Black Magnet parents agreed and 73% of the Hispanic parents agreed.

Responses by non-Magnet parents indicated that public awareness of the Magnet School Program within HISD was not at the desired level. Of the 905 non-Magnet parents surveyed 40% responded "Don't know" (the highest "Don't know" response) to the statement that the Magnet School Program provides a strong educational foundation in the basic skills. The average percent of "Don't know" responses to items in the second section of the survey from non-Magnet parents was 24.6% while only 6.6% for Magnet parents. When asked to list the strengths of the Magnet Program both Magnet and non-Magnet parents responded "Magnet speciality" most frequently. However when asked why they would enroll their children in a Magnet School, Magnet parents responded most frequently with "lower pupil/teacher ratio" which Magnet Schools provide and non-Magnet parents responded most frequently with "quality of the program." When asked to list weaknesses of the Magnet School Program both Magnet and non-Magnet parents responded most frequently with "distance traveled/too far from home."

Magnet students also expressed the feeling that they are receiving a better education at their Magnet School than at a regular school. They also felt that they benefit from the enrichment activities provided by the Magnet School. Of the 2286 Magnet elementary students surveyed, 85% agreed that they learned more at a Magnet School than at a regular school.

When the 2171 non-Magnet elementary students were asked if they thought they would learn more at a Magnet School than at their regular school, 56% agreed. When these same students were asked if they thought students at Magnet Schools get to do special things that they can't do at their regular school, 75% agreed.

Sixty-eight percent (68%) of the 2025 secondary Magnet students and 53% of the 2139 secondary non-Magnet students agreed that involvement in a Magnet School benefits or would benefit them academically. Seventy-two percent (72%) of the secondary transfer Magnet students agreed with this statement and 61% of the home-zoned secondary Magnet students agreed.

When asked if they enjoyed making friends with students of different races and nationalities, 79% of the secondary Magnet students agreed and 68% of the secondary non-Magnet students agreed. Within the secondary Magnet students this statement was agreed with by 71% of the White students, 86% of the Black students and 83% of the Hispanic students. Although parents felt that the greatest weakness of Magnet Schools was that the distance traveled to a Magnet School was too long and that Magnet Schools were too far from home, 78% of the elementary Magnet students responded that it was O.K. to ride the bus to get to their Magnet School. Twenty-three percent (23%) of the secondary Magnet students said that they would transfer to their regular school if they had to travel one hour or more to get to their Magnet School. When asked what would cause them to enroll in a Magnet School, the most frequent response by all four student groups was the Magnet speciality.

DISCUSSION

Although the HISD was recently declared a unitary district, it will be under the court's monitoring for five years. The Board of Education and the General Superintendent desire to ensure a meaningful level of integration to maintain the district's unitary status. The opinions of parents and students are not taken lightly by HISD administrators as is evidenced by the fact that half of the Magnet School Task Force was comprised of parents and students. The findings of these surveys are not overwhelmingly positive, yet they do give indication that parents support Magnet Schools and are pleased with the education provided by them. The major problem areas are the long distances travelled and other transportation difficulties. Unfortunately, these are inherent with a school district the size of HISD.

In order to deal with these problems HISD proposes to develop an In-Town Consortium of Magnet Schools, all located within a specified geographic area close to four major centers of employment and bordered by major transportation arteries. This would facilitate transportation to and from homes to work and school. To accommodate working parents, extended day programs would be offered at each In-Town Consortium Magnet School. In order to draw more Whites back into the district and ease parents fears of sending their children to a predominately minority school, the In-Town Consortium Magnet Schools would enroll Magnet students on a 50% Minority and 50% White basis.

These plans and others still under development demonstrate the way in which Houston ISD attempts to bring about change, based upon parents' and students' input.

CS5-3pah

MAGNET SCHOOL TASK FORCE SURVEY

MAGNET PARENTS N=405

This survey has three parts: 1) general information about you and your family, 2) rating scale of HISD Magnet School Program and 3) section for your comments and suggestions.

I. 1. In which school district do you live? _____

2. In which district do your children attend school? _____

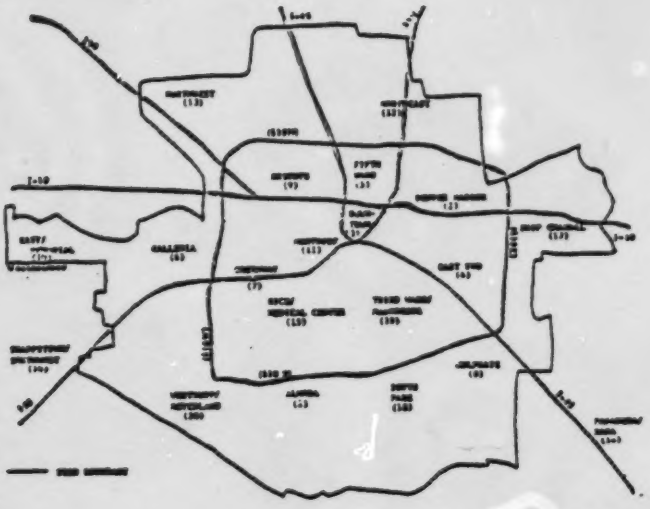
3. What are the ages of your children? _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

4. Of your children, how many are boys? 21% only girls? 21% only BOYS & GIRLS 57% NR 1%

5. What is your race/national origin?

51% White 32% Black 11% Hispanic 4% Other (please specify: 2% NR

For questions 6 & 7, please refer to map/area listing and enter the appropriate key number in the blank spaces provided.



Area Key	SECTION OF TOWN YOU WORK	SECTION OF TOWN SPOUSE WORKS	SECTION YOU PREFER FOR MAGNET
1. Alameda	1	2	1
2. Denver Harbor	2	2	1
3. Downtown	13	9	3
4. East End	2	2	2
5. Fifth Ward	1	2	0
6. Galleria	2	3	3
7. Greenway	5	2	3
8. Gulfgate	3	2	5
9. Heights	2	3	1
10. Katy/Memorial	2	2	4
11. Montrose	4	2	3
12. Northeast	2	2	0
13. Northwest	9	6	7
14. Pasadena/NASA	2	2	1
15. Rice/Medical Center	11	7	10
16. Sharpstown/Southwest	2	0	2
17. Ship Channel	2	2	1
18. South Park	1	1	0
19. Third Ward/MacGregor	5	2	5
20. Westbury/Maverland	5	6	12
21. Other	3	2	2
22. No Response	17	44	11
	%	%	%

6. If you work, in what section of town do you work? _____ key # your spouse? _____ key #

7. If your child were to attend a Magnet program, in what section of town would you prefer? _____ key #

8. What is the zip code at your home? _____ At work? _____

9. How long does it take you to get to work? AVG=21 minutes _____ hours

10. Do you currently vanpool? 6% Yes 87% No 7% NR

11. Are you familiar with the Magnet School concept? (Select one)

67% Very Familiar

25% Somewhat familiar

5% Have heard of it, but not in any detail

1% Never heard of it

12. How did you receive your information about Magnet Schools?

100% My child is/has been enrolled in a Magnet School

7% T.V.

7% Newspaper

9% Know someone whose child attends a Magnet School

6% Other source (please specify:

0% No information

I. Please read each numbered statement below and mark your level of agreement with it on the scale provided. Please mark only one for each statement.

	% Agree	% Neutral	% Disagree	% Do Not Know	% NR
1. My child would learn more in a Magnet School Program.	77	13	5	3	2
2. I would prefer for my child to be in a supervised after school program at his/her school.	43	23	26	6	2
3. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would not benefit my child academically.	10	8	73	7	2
4. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would increase my child's chances for further education.	71	14	7	7	1
5. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would not improve my child's likelihood of getting a good job.	10	15	62	12	1
6. College scholarships may be more available to my child because of Magnet School participation.	55	14	10	20	1
7. Having my child in a Magnet School Program would be a source of pride to our family.	57	28	11	3	1
8. My child would benefit from the multiethnic environment provided by a Magnet School Program.	64	16	13	5	2
9. It would bother me that my child might miss after school activities because of Magnet School transportation.	39	19	35	5	2
10. I would not be willing to have my child travel some distance to a school even to participate in a strong educational program.	28	10	57	3	2
11. Involvement in a supervised after school Magnet Program would benefit my child.	56	18	13	11	2
12. A specialized program that can be provided by a Magnet School would hold my child's interest in his/her education.	81	8	6	4	1
13. The lower pupil/teacher ratio offered by Magnet School Programs would benefit my child.	85	5	4	4	2
14. The fact that the Magnet Program offers free transportation and free tuition would influence my decision to enroll my child in a Magnet School Program.	59	14	24	2	1
15. Magnet Programs are not as attractive as regular programs since the speciality area is not always offered from kindergarten through twelfth grade.	12	22	51	13	2
16. The Magnet School Program provides a strong educational foundation in the basic skills.	62	16	10	10	2
17. The Magnet School Program provides a strong educational foundation in the particular specialty offered by the school.	80	9	5	4	2
18. The proven higher attendance rate of Magnet School students would not influence my decision to send my child to a magent school.	33	24	39	3	1
19. The Magnet School Program is a good, solid educational program.	75	12	5	6	2
20. The special activities provided by the Magnet School Programs are not very attractive to me.	7	13	75	4	1
21. The additional funds available to Magnet Schools improve the quality of the educational programs.	72	11	5	10	2
22. The physical appearance of the school would influence my decision to enroll my child there.	48	21	26	4	1

III. (If additional space is needed, please attach an additional piece of paper.)

1. In your opinion, what are the major strengths of the HISD Magnet School Program?

18.7% - Magnet specialty
14.3% - Lower pupil/teacher ratio
14.3% - Teachers/discipline
12.5% - Quality program
10.2% - Motivates student
5.5% - Preparation for college, career, future
5.2% - Multiethnic environment
4.7% - Strong in the basic skills
4.4% - Extra funds, materials, resources
4.4% - More special activities
94.2% of the total comments

2. In your opinion, what are the major weaknesses of the HISD Magnet School Program?

19.8% - Distance/too far
14.8% - Transportation
10.3% - Teachers/lack of discipline
7.0% - Racial quotas
5.8% - Lack of after school activities including sports
5.8% - Too few Magnet schools
3.7% - Lack of emphasis on basic skills
3.3% - Classes too large
70.5% of the total comments

3. What would prompt you to enroll your child in an HISD Magnet School Program? (lower student/teacher ratio, quality of program, free transportation...)

28.3% - Lower pupil/teacher ratio
24.4% - Quality program
16.4% - Free transportation
9.5% - Magnet specialty
7.1% - Teachers/discipline
5.7% - Close to home
91.4% of the total comments

4. What do you think of some suggested alternative educational/after school programs including:

microcomputer lab?	70% good idea	6% poor idea	24% NR
team sports, such as soccer?	62% good idea	11% poor idea	27% NR
adjustment of school hours?	48% good idea	17% poor idea	35% NR

What alternative programs would you like to have provided for your child?

HISD Graphics-1/31

MAGNET SCHOOL TASK FORCE SURVEY

NON-MAGNET PARENTS N=905

This survey has three parts: 1) general information about you and your family, 2) rating scale of HISD Magnet School Program, and 3) section for your comments and suggestions.

I. 1. In which school district do you live? _____

2. In which district do your children attend school? _____

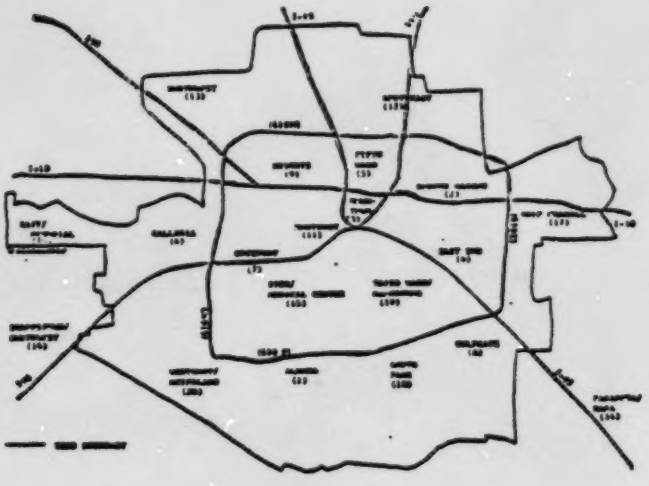
3. What are the ages of your children? _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

4. Of your children, how many are boys only? 20% girls only? 25% BOYS & GIRLS 54% NR 1%

5. What is your race/national origin?

47% White 34% Black 14% Hispanic 4% Other (please specify: 1% NR)

For questions 6 & 7, please refer to map/area listing and enter the appropriate key number in the blank spaces provided.



Area Key	SECTION OF TOWN YOU WORK	SECTION OF TOWN SPOUSE WORKS	SECTION YOU PREFER FOR MAGNET
1. Almeda	2	.	2
2. Denver Harbor	1	.	1
3. Downtown	10	5	2
4. East End	5	2	-
5. Fifth Ward	-	-	3
6. Galleria	5	2	-
7. Greenway	4	-	2
8. Gulfgate	2	-	2
9. Heights	4	-	4
10. Katy/Memorial	3	3	7
11. Montrose	2	-	2
12. Northeast	-	-	-
13. Northwest	9	3	8
14. Pasadena/NASA	2	-	1
15. Rice/Medical Center	7	-	5
16. Sharpstown/Southwest	2	2	9
17. Ship Channel	-	-	1
18. South Park	2	-	3
19. Third Ward/MacGregor	2	1	2
20. Westbury/Meyerland	6	-	13
21. Other	3	-	1
22. No Response	23	31	15
	%	%	%

6. If you work, in what section of town do you work? _____ key # your spouse? _____ key #

7. If your child were to attend a Magnet program, in what section of town would you prefer? _____ key #

8. What is the zip code at your home? _____ At work? _____

9. How long does it take you to get to work? AVG=23 minutes _____ hours

10. Do you currently vanpool? 7% Yes 84% No 9% NR

11. Are you familiar with the Magnet School concept? (Select one)

12% Very Familiar
34% Somewhat familiar
41% Have heard of it, but not in any detail
11% Never heard of it
2% NR

12. How did you receive your information about Magnet Schools?

none My child is/has been enrolled in a Magnet School
21% T.V.
26% Newspaper
36% Know someone whose child attends a Magnet School
25% Other source (please specify:)
20% No information

I. Please read each numbered statement below and mark your level of agreement with it on the scale provided. Please mark only one for each statement.

	% Agree	% Neutral	% Disagree	% Do Not Know	% NR
1. My child would learn more in a Magnet School Program.	42	16	6	33	3
2. I would prefer for my child to be in a supervised after school program at his/her school.	44	17	23	11	5
3. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would not benefit my child academically.	12	12	42	31	3
4. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would increase my child's chances for further education.	50	12	10	24	4
5. Involvement in a Magnet School Program would not improve my child's likelihood of getting a good job.	13	13	42	29	3
6. College scholarships may be more available to my child because of Magnet School participation.	34	13	11	39	3
7. Having my child in a Magnet School Program would be a source of pride to our family.	33	26	19	19	3
8. My child would benefit from the multiethnic environment provided by a Magnet School Program.	39	20	15	23	3
9. It would bother me that my child might miss after school activities because of Magnet School transportation.	37	13	30	16	4
10. I would not be willing to have my child travel some distance to a school even to participate in a strong educational program.	37	12	36	12	3
11. Involvement in a supervised after school Magnet Program would benefit my child.	47	17	11	22	3
12. A specialized program that can be provided by a Magnet School would hold my child's interest in his/her education.	57	13	7	20	3
13. The lower pupil/teacher ratio offered by Magnet School Programs would benefit my child.	65	9	5	18	3
14. The fact that the Magnet Program offers free transportation and free tuition would influence my decision to enroll my child in a Magnet School Program.	50	12	25	9	4
15. Magnet Programs are not as attractive as regular programs since the speciality area is not always offered from kindergarten through twelfth grade.	15	18	26	37	4
16. The Magnet School Program provides a strong educational foundation in the basic skills.	35	15	5	40	5
17. The Magnet School Program provides a strong educational foundation in the particular specialty offered by the school.	54	10	2	30	4
18. The proven higher attendance rate of Magnet School students would not influence my decision to send my child to a magent school.	39	17	24	16	4
19. The Magnet School Program is a good, solid educational program.	43	15	3	35	4
20. The special activities provided by the Magnet School Programs are not very attractive to me.	9	17	40	30	4
21. The additional funds available to Magnet Schools improve the quality of the educational programs.	43	14	5	34	4
22. The physical appearance of the school would influence my decision to enroll my child there.	40	17	25	14	4

III. (If additional space is needed, please attach an additional piece of paper.)

1. In your opinion, what are the major strengths of the HISD Magnet School Program?

29.3% - Magnet specialty
12.5% - Learn more/quality education
11.9% - Teachers/discipline
11.6% - Lower pupil/teacher ratio
6.4% - Good learning environment/motivates students, improves self image
6.1% - Preparation for college, career, future
3.5% - Meet needs of individual students
3.5% - Multiethnic environment
84.8% of the total comments

2. In your opinion, what are the major weaknesses of the HISD Magnet School Program?

27.2% - Distance traveled/too far
10.6% - Leaving the neighborhood
7.3% - Too few Magnet Schools
6.5% - Waiting lists too long
6.1% - Undesirable location
6.1% - Transportation
5.7% - No weaknesses
4.9% - Lack of publicity
4.5% - Lack of activities
4.5% - Teachers/lack of discipline
83.4% of the total comments

3. What would prompt you to enroll your child in an HISD Magnet School Program? (lower student/teacher ratio, quality of program, free transportation...)

27.2% - Quality of program
21.8% - Lower pupil/teacher ratio
13.8% - Free transportation
8.8% - Close to home
7.9% - Magnet specialty
6.3% - Learn more
4.2% - Teachers/discipline
90.0% - of total comments

4. What do you think of some suggested alternative educational/after school programs including:

microcomputer lab?	67% good idea	6% poor idea	27% NR
team sports, such as soccer?	57% good idea	14% poor idea	29% NR
adjustment of school hours?	50% good idea	16% poor idea	34% NR

What alternative programs would you like to have provided for your child?

HISD

Magnet School Task Force
ELEMENTARY - MAGNET
N = 2286

I. 1. Your grade?

N = 2285

	N	%
4	803	35
5	858	38
6	624	27

2. What race are you?

N = 2274

	N	%
White	842	37
Hispanic	501	22
Black	931	41

3. School

	N	%
Askew	45	2.0
Bell	115	5.0
Berry	74	3.2
Bruce	116	5.1
Burbank	94	4.1
Burrus	61	2.7
Codwell	86	3.8
Cornelius	91	4.0
Crawford	51	2.2
Garden Villas	76	3.3
Anson Jones	54	2.4
J. W. Jones	43	1.9

	N	%
Lantrip	66	2.9
Longfellow	77	3.4
MacGregor	71	3.1
Parker	114	5.0
Pleasantville	85	3.7
Poe	80	3.5
Port Houston	50	2.2
Pugh	79	3.5
River Oaks	94	4.1
Roberts	61	2.7
T. H. Rogers	91	4.0
Will Rogers	90	3.9
Roosevelt	64	2.8
Ross	70	3.1
Scroggins	60	2.6
Wainwright	65	2.8
Wilson	70	3.1
Windsor Village	93	4.1

4. Did you transfer to this school?

N = 2270

	N	%
Yes	1344	59
No	926	41

5. Do you ride a bus to school?

N = 2275

	N	%
Yes	1000	44
No	1275	56

6. What time do you get on the bus in the morning?

	N	%	
6:00 - 6:30	138	14.3	
			> 47.5
- 7:00	320	33.2	
- 7:30	314	32.5	
			> 45.8
- 8:00	128	13.3	
- 8:30	61	6.3	
			> 6.7
- 8:45	4	.4	

II. For the following questions:

Total = All students who answered this question

Transfer students = All students who answered "yes" to question 4

Non-transfer = All students who answered "no" to question 4

Bus students = All students who answered "yes" to question 5

Non-bus = All students who answered "no" to question 5

Transfer and bus = All students who answered "yes" to both question 4 and 5

* = A difference of at least 9.0% within the subgroup

1. I learn more at my Magnet School than at a regular school?

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2236	85.4	15.6
Transfer students	1334	88.6	11.4
Non-transfer	888	80.6	19.4
Bus	996	*90.8	9.2
Non-bus	1229	81.1	18.9

2. I want to continue my Magnet studies in middle school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2261	82.5	17.5
Transfer students	1329	83.6	16.4
Non-transfer	917	81.1	18.9

Bus	989	82.7	17.3
Non-bus	1261	82.6	17.4
Transfer students by race			
White	829	82.5	17.5
Hispanic	392	78.4	21.6
Black	779	84.7	15.3

3. I miss my regular school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2173	27.3	72.7
Transfer students	1324	* 32.2	67.8
Non-transfer	834	19.5	80.5
Bus	989	31.2	68.8
Non-bus	1173	23.9	76.1
Transfer students by race			
White	463	* 28.9	71.1
Hispanic	268	39.2	60.8
Black	586	31.6	68.4
Transfer and bus			
White	311	* 28.6	71.4
Hispanic	174	41.4	58.6
Black	390	31.8	68.2
Transfer and non-bus			
White	147	* 29.3	70.7
Hispanic	93	24.1	64.5
Black	194	31.4	68.6

4. I miss my friends at my old school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2157	51.4	48.6
Transfer students	1318	* 60.0	40.0
Non-transfer	823	37.2	62.8
Bus	987	* 57.4	42.6
Non-bus	1159	46.0	54.0

Transfer students by			
White	458	60.5	39.5
Hispanic	269	62.5	37.5
Black	583	58.3	41.7
Transfer and bus			
White	311	58.8	41.2
Hispanic	174	63.8	36.2
Black	389	58.9	41.1
Transfer and non-bus			
White	142	62.7	37.3
Hispanic	94	60.6	39.4
Black	192	57.8	42.2

5. I like to make friends with students of different races.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2278	97.3	2.7
Transfer students	1340	97.8	2.2
Non-transfer	922	96.6	3.4
Bus	998	97.7	2.3
Non-bus	1269	97.1	2.9
Transfer students by race			
White	838	96.7	3.3
Hispanic	501	98.0	2.0
Black	927	97.5	2.5

6. I feel special because I'm a Magnet student.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2275	63.5	36.5
Transfer students	1340	62.9	37.1
Non-transfer	919	64.3	35.7
Bus	996	61.7	38.3
Non-bus	1268	64.7	35.3
Transfer students by race			
White	840	* 60.4	39.6
Hispanic	500	69.4	30.6
Black	923	63.3	36.7

7. I like my Magnet School because I get to do special things that I could not do at a regular school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2266	92.3	7.7
Transfer students	1335	93.2	6.8
Non-transfer	915	91.1	8.9
Bus	995	92.9	7.1
Non-bus	1261	91.8	8.2
Transfer students by race			
White	831	92.3	7.7
Hispanic	500	90.4	9.6
Black	924	93.3	6.7

8. I like to come to my Magnet School more often than a regular school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2227	82.9	17.1
Transfer students	1328	82.6	17.4
Non-transfer	883	83.2	16.8
Bus	991	82.4	17.6
Non-bus	1225	83.4	16.6
Transfer students by race			
White	808	82.9	17.1
Hispanic	488	81.8	18.2
Black	919	83.6	16.4

9. Missing after school activities because of riding the bus is O.K. with me.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	176	42.3	57.7
Transfer students	1156	* 46.3	53.7
Non-transfer	592	35.0	65.0
Bus	972	* 50.8	49.2
Non-bus	779	31.6	68.4
Bus			
White	329	* 55.9	44.1
Hispanic	193	51.3	48.7
Black	445	46.5	53.5

Non-bus			
White	277	* 33.6	66.4
Hispanic	192	37.0	63.0
Black	304	26.6	73.4
Transfer and bus			
White	305	* 56.4	43.6
Hispanic	169	49.1	50.9
Black	385	46.5	53.5
Transfer and non-bus			
White	90	* 41.1	58.9
Hispanic	57	33.3	66.7
Black	135	27.4	72.6

10. Riding the bus to get to my Magnet School is O.K. with me.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	1685	77.6	22.4
Transfer students	1122	* 82.4	17.6
Non-transfer	550	68.0	32.0
Bus	986	* 88.0	12.0
Non-bus	691	62.7	37.3
Bus			
White	334	88.3	11.7
Hispanic	195	88.2	11.8
Black	451	87.6	12.4
Non-bus			
White	251	60.2	39.8
Hispanic	178	63.5	36.5
Black	257	64.6	35.4
Transfer and bus			
White	309	88.7	11.3
Hispanic	171	88.9	11.1
Black	390	88.5	11.5
Transfer and non-bus			
White	72	58.3	41.7
Hispanic	52	59.6	40.4
Black	114	61.4	38.6

11. Learning is more fun at Magnet School.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2254	88.3	11.7
Transfer students	1331	88.5	11.5
Non-transfer	907	87.9	12.1
Bus	991	88.6	11.4
Non-bus	1255	88.0	12.0
Transfer students by race			
White	820	86.6	13.4
Hispanic	499	88.2	11.8
Black	923	89.7	10.3

III. 1. List the things you like best about your Magnet School.

Total number of comments - 7259

3107 - 42.8% Magnet curriculum - includes magnet specialty classes such as the science lab at Wainwright or band at MacGregor.

923 - 12.7% Other classes - includes subjects or classes other than the Magnet specialty classes.

692 - 9.5% School staff - includes teachers mostly but also principals, coordinators and other staff.

547 - 7.5% Field trips

350 - 4.8% Special activities

345 - 4.8% Meet new friends - includes meeting students of different races.

219 - 3.0% Learn more

182 - 2.5% Computers

165 - 2.3% Performing/Programs

128 - 1.8% After school activities

87 - 1.2% It's fun!

83 - Playing outside/recess
1.1%

77 - Positive comments - such as "I like everything"
1.1%

72 - School building - includes 44 by T.H. Rogers students
1.0%

68 - Changing classes
1.0%

63 - Food
1.0%

38 - Projects (mostly Vanguard students)
1.0%

35 - Small classes
1.0%

29 - Riding bus/bus driver
1.0%

49 - Others - frequency from 2 to 13 includes classrooms,
1.0% integration, audiovisual, "the way they treat you".

2. List the things you do <u>not</u> like about your Magnet School?

Total number of comments - 1950

343 - Magnet curriculum and related activities
17.6%

321 - Food
16.5%

261 - School staff - mainly teachers
13.4%

258 - Other classes - non-Magnet classes
13.2%

163 - Homework/School work - includes reports and projects
8.4%

138 - Long school hours- includes getting up early, getting
7.1% home late, and staying for after school activities

108 - School rules/Discipline
5.5%

75 - Students - includes jealousy of regular students (19),
3.8% fighting, stealing, noise level in cafeteria.

71 - Bathrooms
3.6%

60 - 3.1% Bus - includes driver, misbehavior of students on the bus and length of ride

44 - 2.3% Cafeteria service - includes 39 comments from one school

32 - 1.6% Not enough P.E.

14 - 1% Missing academic classes when pulled for rehearsals or performance

11 - 1% Miss friends

10 - 1% Rooms too small

30 - 1.5% Others - frequency of response is 2 to 7 - includes missing friends, general negative comments, patrols

O-1MS/CS4-1pah

HISD
Magnet School Task Force
ELEMENTARY - NON-MAGNET
N = 2171

I. 1. Your grade?
N = 2170

Grade	N	%
4	778	35.9
5	857	39.5
6	535	24.7

2. What race are you?
N = 2159

	N	%
White	529	24.5
Hispanic	627	29.0
Black	1003	46.5

3. School

	N	%		N	%
Ashford	28	1.3	Dezavala	27	1.2
Alcott	57	2.6	Dogan	25	1.2
Bastian	27	1.2	Douglass	32	1.5
Benbrook	30	1.4	Durkee	22	1.0
Blackshear	45	2.1	Eighth Ave.	33	1.5
Bonham	29	1.3	Elrod	53	2.4
Brookline	21	108	Fairchild	51	2.3
Browning	46	2.1	Foster	26	1.2
Burnet	22	1.0	Franklin	26	1.2
Carnegie	32	1.5	Frost	28	1.3
Chatham	33	1.5	Golfcrest	31	1.4
Concord	27	1.2	Gregg	25	1.2
Condit	25	1.2	Grimes	25	1.2
Coop	33	1.5	Grissom	55	2.5
Cunningham	49	2.3	J. R. Harris	22	1.0

	N	%		N	%
R. P. Harris	27	1.2	Peck	32	1.5
Harvard	28	1.3	Peterson	60	2.8
J. P. Henderson	53	2.4	Pleasants	33	1.5
Hobby	84	3.9	Red	24	1.1
Houston Gardens	29	1.3	Richmond	23	1.1
Janowski	46	2.1	Scott	22	1.0
Kashmere Gardens	27	1.2	Shearn	47	2.2
Kelso	31	1.4	Sherman	87	4.0
Lee	6	.3	Thompson	24	1.1
Looscan	29	1.3	Southmayd	62	2.9
Mading	31	1.4	Stevens	28	1.3
Milam	23	1.1	Sutton	54	2.5
Northline	28	1.3	Whidby	30	1.4
Oates	30	1.4	White	57	2.6
Osborne	53	2.4	Whittier	26	1.2
Patterson	52	2.4			

4. Did you transfer to this school?
N = 2157

	Yes	No
N	674	1483
%	31.2	68.8

5. Do you ride a bus to school?
N = 2163

	Yes	No
N	316	1847
%	14.6	85.4

6. What time do you get on the bus in the morning?

	N	%	
6:00 - 6:15	3	1.1	
6:16 - 6:30	10	3.6	> 8%
6:31 - 6:45	9	3.3	
6:46 - 7:00	52	19.0	
7:01 - 7:15	97	35.4	> 82.5%
7:16 - 7:30	77	28.1	
7:31 - 7:45	22	8.0	> 9.5%
7:46 - 8:00	4	1.5	

7. Have you heard about Magnet Schools?
N = 2162

	Yes	No
N	1565	597
%	72.4	27.6

8. How did you hear about Magnet Schools?

	N	%
I have been enrolled in a Magnet School	90	4.1
T. V.	346	15.9
Newspaper	132	6.1
Know someone who attends a Magnet School	846	39.0
Other source	486	22.3
No information	516	23.8

Other Source
(Same sample of schools used as in III 2 and 3.)

82	Teachers
31	Friends/Relations
16	Recruitment effort (school visit or mail)
6	School
2	Radio

II. For the following questions:

Total = All students who answered this question

Transfer students = All students who answered "yes" to question 4

Non-transfer = All students who answered "no" to question 4

Bus students = All students who answered "yes" to question 5

Non-bus = All students who answered "no" to question 5

Transfer and bus = All students who answered "yes" to both question 4 and 5

* = A difference of at least 9.0% within the subgroup

1. I would learn more at a Magnet School than at my school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2150	55.8	44.2
Transfer students	666	55.3	44.7
Non-transfer	1472	55.9	44.1
Bus	308	55.8	44.2
Non-bus	1836	55.7	44.3
White	532	53.5	46.5
Hispanic	620	53.5	46.5
Black	997	58.3	41.7

2. If I were going to a Magnet School I would want to continue the studies in middle school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2148	68.0	32.0
Transfer students	667	71.7	28.3
Non-transfer	1469	66.3	33.7
Bus	309	71.2	28.8
Non-bus	1833	67.4	32.6
White	522	67.2	32.8
Hispanic	619	65.1	34.9
Black	996	70.1	29.9

3. I would leave my school to go to a Magnet School.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2151	37.6	62.4
Transfer students	668	39.7	60.3
Non-transfer	1470	36.5	63.5
Bus	309	41.4	58.6
Non-bus	1835	36.7	63.3
White	522	* 31.0	69.0
Hispanic	621	32.2	67.8
Black	996	44.4	55.6
Transfer			
White	142	* 37.3	62.7
Hispanic	190	28.4	71.6
Black	327	41.7	52.3
Bus			
White	60	* 38.3	61.7
Hispanic	81	33.3	66.7
Black	165	47.3	52.7
Transfer and bus			
White	16	* 56.3	43.8
Hispanic	20	25.0	75.0
Black	66	51.5	48.5

(Note small N's)

4. I would miss my friends at my old school.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2153	90.5	9.5
Transfer students	667	91.2	8.8
Non-transfer	1473	90.2	9.8
Bus	310	93.5	6.5
Non-bus	1836	90.0	10.0
White	525	93.0	7.0
Hispanic	620	87.4	12.6
Black	996	91.0	9.0

5. I would like to make friends with students of different races.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2151	92.0	8.0
Transfer students	668	92.4	7.6
Non-transfer	1470	91.8	8.2
Bus	310	93.5	6.5
Non-bus	1834	91.7	8.3
White	523	90.8	9.2
Hispanic	620	91.5	8.5
Black	996	93.0	7.0

6. Students who go to Magnet Schools feel special.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2144	47.4	52.6
Transfer students	665	51.9	48.1
Non-transfer	1466	45.2	54.8
Bus	309	48.9	51.1
Non-bus	1829	47.1	52.9
White	518	44.0	56.0
Hispanic	619	47.2	52.8
Black	995	49.1	50.9

7. Students at Magnet Schools get to do special things that they can not do at regular schools.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2155	75.4	24.6
Transfer students	667	76.2	23.8
Non-transfer	1474	75.0	25.0
Bus	309	73.1	26.9
Non-bus	1839	75.9	24.1
White	525	74.3	25.7
Hispanic	622	73.6	26.4
Black	996	77.3	22.7

8. I would want to go to school more often if I were going to a Magnet School.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2154	49.1	50.9
Transfer students	668	50.4	49.6
Non-transfer	1472	48.6	51.4
Bus	310	55.5	44.5
Non-bus	1837	48.0	52.0
White	521	* 44.1	55.9
Hispanic	624	46.6	53.4
Black	997	53.5	46.5

9. Missing after school activities because of riding the bus would be O.K. with me.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2139	28.5	71.5
Transfer students	664	33.4	66.6
Non-transfer	1461	26.1	73.9
Bus	309	33.3	66.7
Non-bus	1824	27.6	72.4
White	520	26.3	73.7
Hispanic	615	32.5	67.5
Black	992	27.2	72.8
Transfer and bus			
White	16	31.3	68.8
Hispanic	20	35.0	65.0
Black	65	38.5	61.5
(Note small N's)			
Transfer and non-bus			
White	126	31.0	69.0
Hispanic	169	37.3	62.7
Black	259	30.9	69.1
Non-transfer and non-bus			
White	329	22.8	77.2
Hispanic	357	30.0	70.0
Black	564	23.6	76.4

10. Riding the bus over one hour to get to a Magnet School would be O.K. with me.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2151	43.0	57.0
Transfer students	666	44.9	55.1
Non-transfer	1473	42.0	58.0
Bus	309	* 52.1	47.9
Non-bus	1836	41.4	58.6
White	523	* 37.9	62.1
Hispanic	622	41.5	58.5
Black	994	46.5	53.5
Transfer and bus			
White	15	40.0	60.0
Hispanic	20	60.0	40.0
Black	66	57.6	42.4
(Note small N's)			
Transfer and non-bus			
White	126	46.0	54.0
Hispanic	170	38.2	61.8
Black	260	45.0	55.0
Non-transfer and bus			
White	44	* 34.1	65.9
Hispanic	60	45.0	55.0
Black	99	61.6	38.4
(Note small N's)			
Non-transfer and non-bus			
White	332	* 35.2	64.8
Hispanic	365	41.1	58.9
Black	564	43.3	56.7

11. Learning would be more fun at a Magnet School.

	N	Percent Responding Yes	No
Total	2142	64.1	35.9
Transfer students	667	64.6	35.4
Non-transfer	1463	63.8	36.2
Bus	310	69.4	30.6
Non-bus	1827	63.3	36.7
White	518	59.8	40.2
Hispanic	619	63.0	37.0
Black	994	66.9	33.1

III. 1. Which of the following Magnet programs would you like to take? Mark only one.

	Percent Responding Total N = 2113	White N = 524	Hispanic N = 622	Black N = 956
Fine arts (piano, band, violin, dance, drama, art)	21.7	16.6	23.2	23.3
Physical development (soccer, basketball, golf, frisbee, roller skating, volleyball)	36.6	38.2	42.8	31.6
Gymnastics	18.3	17.6	15.4	20.6
Math/science	6.3	8.8	5.1	5.8
Plants, animals and outdoor education	5.5	11.5	4.5	2.9
Academically able classes for all subjects (Vanguard)	5.4	4.6	3.9	7.0
Bilingual	2.7	1.3	3.4	3.1
Reading and math (fundamental)	3.5	1.5	1.8	5.6

These comments for questions 2 and 3 are taken from 18 of the 62 schools in the sample. They are Alcott, Ashford, Bonham, Brookline, Bastian, Chatham, Concord, Milam, Northline, Peterson, Peck, Red, Sutton, Shearn, Thompson, White, Whidby and Whittier. Only comments which occurred more than five times were recorded.

2. List the things that would make you want to go to a Magnet School.

Total number of comments - 976

227 - PE - including gymnastics
23.3%

137 - Make new friends - includes (28) friends of different races
14.0%

129 - Fine arts courses
13.2%

117 - More activities - includes after school activities
12.0%

113 - Learn more
11.6%

63 - To have fun
6.5%

40 - Academic subjects - includes math, science, reading, spelling etc.
4.1%

19 - New teachers - includes - better teachers, nice teachers

19 - Outdoor education/ecology

18 - Vanguard -includes accelerated and advanced courses

15 - Bilingual

14 - Greater choice of subjects - includes being able to choose their own subjects

13 - Ride the bus - includes being able to bet transportation

11 - Feel special

11 - Performing/Programs

8 - Friends attend with me -

8 - Smaller classes - includes more teacher attention

8 - Field trips

6 - Different subjects

3. List the things that would make you not want to go to a Magnet School.

Total number of comments - 619

256 - Miss friends, teachers, school
41.4%

211 - Long bus ride - includes 64 - far from home
34.1%

55 - Lots of homework/school work
8.9%

29 - Miss afterschool activities
4.7%

19 - Fights
3.1%

16 - Problems with students at the Magnet Schools - includes "students won't like me", "unfriendly students", "think you're stuck up"

11 - Mean teachers

8 - Don't want to stay after school - includes getting out of school too late

7 - Won't learn as much

7 - Have to make new friends

O-1MS-CS4/2pah

HISD
Magnet Task Force Survey
SECONDARY - MAGNET

N = 2025

I. 1. In which school district do you live?

	N	%
HISD	1985	98
NON-HISD	40	2

2. In which district do you attend school? N/A

3. What grade are you in?
N = 2014

	Grade						
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
N	91	295	359	358	378	303	230
%	4.5	14.6	17.8	17.8	18.8	15	11.4

4. Are you male? female?
N = 2024

	N	%
Male	907	45
Female	1117	55

5. What is your race/national origin?
N = 1997

	N	%
White	780	39.1
Black	713	35.7
Hispanic	504	25.2

6. What school do you attend?

Junior/Middle	N	%
Burbank	87	4.3
CLC Middle	43	2.1
Clifton	32	1.6
Fleming	169	8.3
Hamilton	74	3.7
Hartman	118	5.8
Holland	88	4.3
Lanier	75	3.7
Welch	126	6.2
Williams	119	5.9
High Schools		
Bellaire	196	9.7
CLC High School	195	9.6
Community High School	50	2.5
Davis	71	3.5
Jones	104	5.1
Milby	107	5.3
Reagan	121	6.0
Sterling	76	3.8
B.T. Washington	107	5.3
Yates	67	3.3

7. Are you zoned to this school? (Is this your home school?)
N = 2009

	N	%
Yes	644	32%
No	1365	68%

8. What is the zip code at your home? N/A

9. How long does it take you to get to school?
N = 1983

		N	%	
	1-15	815	41	
	-30	532	27	68%
Min.	-45	244	12	
	-60	178	9	21%
	-75	76	4	
	-90	94	5	
	-105	26	1	11%
	-120	18	1	

10. Do you currently ride a bus?
N = 2014

	N	%
Yes	1108	55
No	906	45

11. Are you familiar with the Magnet School concept? (select one)
N = 1999

	N	%
Very familiar	1069	54
Somewhat familiar	639	32
Have heard of it, but not in any detail	242	12
Never heard of it	49	3

12. How did you receive your information about Magnet Schools? (Multiple response item)

	N	%		N	%
I am enrolled in a Magnet School	1277	59	Know someone who attends a Magnet school	370	17
T.V.	45	2	Other source: (Please specify:	367	17
Newspaper	41	2		(See below)	
			No information	65	3

Other Source

75 - Recruitment effort (by mail or school visit)

74 - School Counselor

68 - Teacher

67 - School

39 - Relative

29 - Friends

22 - Previously enrolled in Magnet School

7 - Principal

2 - Career Day

2 - School Board

1 - Private School

1 - Probation Officer

13. In choosing a Magnet School, which is more important? (Select one)
N = 2007

	N	Percent Responding			
		Location	Program	Length of time spent on the bus	Major race school
Total	2007	10.6	85.4	.8	3.2
White	775	8.8	86.2	1.0	4.0
Black	704	10.2	87.1	.4	2.3
Hispanic	501	13.8	81.8	.8	3.6
Transfer	1354	7.8	88.9	.7	2.7
Non-transfer	638	16.6	77.9	1.1	4.4
Middle/Junior	1081	9.4	87.3	1.0	2.2
Senior	926	12.0	83.0	.5	4.4

14. What was your combined average from the first semester of this year with A = 4, B = 3, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, and F = 0.

N = 1863

	N	%
4.0-3.5	606	33
3.4-2.5	880	47
2.4-1.5	340	18
1.4-0	37	2

II. For the following questions

Total = All students who answered this question

Transfer = All students who answered "no" to question 7

Non-transfer = All students who answered "yes" to question 7

Bus = All students who answered "yes" to question 10

Transfer and bus = All students who answered "no" to question 7 and yes to question 10

* = A difference of at least 9.0% within a subgroup

1. I learn about the same in a Magnet School as in a regular school

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2009	20.2	16.7	53.2	10.0
Transfer	1354	19.1	16.4	*57.5	6.9
Non-transfer	639	21.9	17.4	44.8	16.0
Bus	1097	19.1	15.8	*57.6	7.5
Non-bus	903	21.4	17.5	48.3	12.8
Junior/Middle	1081	19.7	16.3	55.5	8.6
Senior	926	20.7	17.2	50.5	11.6
White	776	20.1	17.5	51.7	10.7
Black	707	20.2	16.3	55.6	7.9
Hispanic	498	20.1	16.5	52.0	11.4

2. Graduating from this Magnet School Program rather than a regular school will prepare me better to get a good job or to enter college.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2008	67.2	15.9	8.9	8.0
Transfer	1355	68.5	16.5	7.8	7.2
Non-transfer	640	64.2	15.2	11.1	9.5
Bus	1101	*72.0	13.5	7.3	7.2
Non-bus	899	61.6	18.7	10.7	9.0
Junior/Middle	1083	65.6	18.4	8.4	7.7
Senior	927	69.1	13.1	9.4	8.4
White	771	*61.9	19.8	9.3	8.9
Black	708	72.7	12.9	6.4	8.1
Hispanic	503	67.0	14.7	11.7	6.6

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Non-transfer and Bus					
White	54	70.4	7.4	*14.8	7.4
Black	79	69.6	11.4	7.6	11.4
Hispanic	36	66.7	5.6	2.2	5.6
Non-transfer and Non-bus					
White	206	*56.3	20.9	*9.2	13.9
Black	119	69.7	16.0	5.9	8.4
Hispanic	127	63.8	15.7	15.0	5.5
Transfer and Bus					
White	303	*67.0	18.5	6.9	7.6
Black	380	77.1	11.3	5.5	6.1
Hispanic	228	71.5	14.5	6.6	7.5
Transfer and Non-bus					
White	202	57.9	23.8	11.9	6.4
Black	120	65.0	15.8	7.5	11.7
Hispanic	103	60.2	18.4	15.5	5.8

3. I am willing to miss after school activities (such as clubs or sports) because of Magnet School bus transportation.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1997	27.0	24.2	39.6	9.2
Transfer	1349	*32.2	24.8	*36.0	7.0
Non-transfer	633	16.1	23.1	47.2	13.6
Bus	1097	*36.5	24.3	*33.5	5.7
Non-bus	890	15.4	24.2	47.3	13.1
Junior/Middle	1076	24.2	23.2	41.9	10.7
Senior	921	30.4	25.3	36.9	7.4

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	761	28.0	24.1	37.9	9.9
Black	704	25.4	24.1	42.5	8.0
Hispanic	498	27.3	23.5	39.4	9.8

4. I enjoy making friends with students of different races and nationalities.

Percent Responding

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2005	79.3	16.5	3.2	1.0
Transfer	1351	80.2	16.3	2.4	1.1
Non-transfer	638	77.6	16.9	4.7	.8
Bus	1096	81.3	14.7	3.2	.8
Non-bus	899	76.6	18.7	3.3	1.3
Junior/Middle	1085	*74.7	20.4	4.1	.9
Senior	920	84.7	11.8	2.3	1.2
White	775	*70.7	23.8	4.4	1.2
Black	705	85.7	11.1	2.1	1.1
Hispanic	498	82.9	13.1	3.2	.8

5. If I had to travel one hour or more to get to my Magnet School I would transfer to a regular school

Percent Responding

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2008	22.9	17.0	49.3	10.9
Transfer	1354	*18.0	15.9	*56.3	9.8
Non-transfer	639	33.0	19.4	34.7	12.8
Bus	1099	*16.7	15.4	*59.6	8.3
Non-bus	899	30.4	19.1	36.5	14.0
Junior/Middle	1086	26.6	16.7	*45.0	11.7
Senior	922	18.4	17.5	54.2	9.9

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	773	*27.3	16.3	*44.6	11.8
Black	706	16.6	15.3	57.5	10.6
Hispanic	506	24.5	20.1	45.4	10.0

6. Involvement in this Magnet School program benefits me academically.

Percent Responding

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1998	68.4	19.3	5.0	7.4
Transfer	1351	*71.7	18.4	.4.4	5.6
Non-transfer	632	61.2	21.5	6.2	11.1
Bus	1093	71.0	18.7	4.7	5.7
Non-bus	896	65.3	20.0	5.4	9.4
Junior/Middle	742	68.6	20.5	4.3	6.5
Senior	625	68.2	17.8	5.7	8.4
White	769	69.2	18.3	5.1	7.4
Black	703	70.3	17.9	4.8	7.0
Hispanic	498	64.3	22.5	5.2	8.0

7. I enjoy going to my Magnet School more than a regular school.

Percent Responding

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2011	61.0	23.1	8.4	7.6
Transfer	1358	*65.8	20.7	8.1	5.4
Non-transfer	638	50.8	28.5	8.8	11.9
Bus	1102	*65.1	21.1	8.9	5.0
Non-bus	899	56.0	25.8	7.7	10.6
Junior/Middle	1086	57.6	25.0	9.1	8.4
Senior	670	65.0	21.0	7.5	6.6

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	772	62.3	22.7	6.5	8.5
Black	710	61.5	22.5	9.7	6.2
Hispanic	510	57.9	25.0	9.2	8.0

8. Having only 20-25 students in a class helps me learn more than I would in my regular classroom.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2001	62.7	18.7	11.6	7.0
Transfer	1350	65.1	18.1	11.5	5.3
Non-transfer	637	57.5	19.9	12.2	10.4
Bus	1098	63.4	18.0	12.8	5.8
Non-bus	893	61.8	19.4	10.3	8.5
Junior/Middle	1079	*66.8	18.4	9.1	5.7
Senior	922	57.8	19.1	14.6	8.5
White	770	*67.1	19.1	*7.1	6.6
Black	703	61.2	16.6	14.5	7.7
Hispanic	500	58.0	20.4	14.8	6.8

9. Magnet programs would be better if the speciality area was offered from elementary school to high school.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1993	50.8	23.5	12.6	13.0
Transfer	1343	51.2	24.2	12.4	12.2
Non-transfer	635	50.2	22.0	12.9	14.8
Bus	1089	52.4	22.9	12.3	12.4
Non-bus	894	48.9	24.2	13.0	14.0

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Junior/Middle	1076	49.6	24.4	14.9	11.1
Senior	917	52.2	22.4	10.0	15.4
White	769	*46.3	26.5	11.8	15.3
Black	706	57.5	20.1	11.0	11.3
Hispanic	490	48.4	23.7	16.7	11.2

10. I was encouraged to enroll in this Magnet School program because it provides special activities and learning opportunities that I can not get at a regular school.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1999	71.0	13.1	11.1	4.9
Transfer	1349	*77.4	11.5	*8.6	2.5
Non-transfer	635	58.0	16.2	16.1	9.8
Bus	1097	76.4	10.3	10.0	3.3
Non-bus	892	64.3	16.5	12.2	7.0
Junior/Middle	1074	68.2	15.6	11.3	4.8
Senior	925	74.2	10.1	10.8	5.0
White	542	70.7	14.5	9.6	5.2
Black	512	72.4	10.6	12.3	4.7
Hispanic	342	68.8	14.9	11.5	4.8

11. The Magnet School's appearance influenced my decision to enroll here.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1999	25.2	26.0	42.5	6.3
Transfer	1349	*28.2	23.7	43.5	4.5
Non-transfer	635	18.6	30.9	40.6	9.9

	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Bus	1090	27.0	23.5	44.2	5.3
Non-bus	899	23.0	29.0	40.4	7.6
Junior/Middle	1078	*20.9	27.2	*46.5	5.5
Senior	921	30.3	24.6	37.8	7.3
White	769	22.5	28.6	*42.3	6.6
Black	704	24.9	20.9	48.7	5.5
Hispanic	499	29.7	28.9	34.5	7.0

12. The appearance of the Magnet School's surrounding neighborhood influenced my decision to enroll here.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1995	12.5	23.4	57.9	6.1
Transfer	1344	11.3	21.7	*62.3	4.7
Non-transfer	636	15.4	26.9	48.7	9.0
Bus	1090	10.2	21.2	*63.0	5.6
Non-bus	896	15.3	26.0	51.9	6.8
Junior/Middle	1076	12.2	23.9	59.1	4.8
Senior	919	12.9	22.9	56.6	7.6
White	766	12.9	23.4	*56.8	6.9
Black	702	12.1	18.9	64.8	4.1
Hispanic	499	12.4	28.9	51.1	7.6

13. The race of the majority of the students at this Magnet School did influence my decision to enroll here.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1993	13.2	21.5	60.4	4.9
Transfer	1343	12.7	20.7	*63.4	3.3
Non-transfer	635	14.2	23.3	54.3	8.2
Bus	1088	11.7	18.1	*66.4	3.9
Non-bus	895	15.0	25.8	53.2	6.0
Junior/Middle	1077	14.6	22.5	58.3	4.6
Senior	916	11.6	20.4	62.9	5.1
White	769	11.1	22.4	60.7	5.9
Black	698	15.6	19.3	61.6	3.4
Hispanic	499	13.0	22.8	59.1	5.0

14. Having an extra class as an extended day class of 8th period in which I learn more in my Magnet area influenced my decision to enroll here.

		Percent Responding			
	Number	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	1940	9.6	24.2	42.1	24.2
Transfer	1293	9.6	24.9	41.2	24.3
Non-transfer	633	9.6	22.7	43.8	23.9
Bus	1057	10.7	24.2	41.5	23.6
Non-bus	873	8.1	24.2	42.6	25.1
Junior/Middle	1048	6.8	23.0	46.0	24.2
Senior	892	12.9	25.6	37.4	24.1
White	750	7.5	24.9	*37.5	30.1
Black	689	11.8	22.8	47.8	17.7
Hispanic	478	9.3	24.7	41.8	24.3

III. 1. What are the major strengths of the HISD Magnet School Program?
Total number of comments - 1608

379 - 23.6%	Magnet speciality - includes courses or activities such as gymnastics at Welch or science at Hamilton, also the idea of learning more in specialized areas.
219 - 13.6%	Teachers - includes concepts such as "they care about you," "understand you," "help you learn better," and "student/ teacher relationship"
158 - 9.8%	Preparation for college, career, future
148 - 9.2%	Learn more, a better education
120 - 7.5%	Smaller classes - includes less students, more help
94 - 5.8%	Academics - courses other than Magnet courses
88 - 5.5%	Learn at own pace - 60 of these comments came from CLC students
66 - 4.1%	Better program than regular school - includes "advance level," "easier to learn," "challenging," "develop skills"
58 - 3.6%	Meet new people - includes "make friends with similar interests," "better students," "different races"
57 - 3.5%	Extra activities - includes "do more," "special opportunities," "more advantages"
57 - 3.5%	Field Trips
48 - 3.0%	Freedom - includes "teaches responsibility," "independence"
28 - 1.7%	Extra classes - includes "advance faster" and "get credits earlier"
27 - 1.7%	Ethnic mix
61 - 3.8%	Others - range in frequency from 1 to 11 - those mentioned most frequently - "fun to learn," "individualized," "computers," Discipline," "could get transportation," "counselors," "self-esteem"

2. What are the major weaknesses of the HISD Magnet School Program?

Total number of comments 962

197 - 20.5%	Transportation
90 - 9.4%	Magnet schools too far - includes 42 - getting home too late/up too early 25 - bus ride too long
83 - 8.6%	Students - includes 37 - let in unqualified students 24 - fighting and misbehavior 14 - integration not working
73 - 7.6%	Teachers - includes "can't manage" Students," "unqualified" and "don't care"
72 - 7.5%	Funds - includes 33 - more supplies, materials and equipment
70 - 7.3%	Facilities - includes 26 - lack of space 19 - over crowded
51 - 5.3%	Location - includes "bad schools" "trashy schools"
46 - 4.8%	Being in same building with regular students - includes 30 - jelousy of regular students
37 - 3.8%	Electives - includes "none availabale," "need greater variety," "need more"
33 - 3.4%	Isolation from regular students and school
30 - 3.1%	Lack of activities - includes extra curricular, social
30 - 3.1%	Academics - especially where academic courses aren't the Magnet speciality
24 - 2.5%	Disorganization of administration
20 - 2.1%	Food

18 - 1.9% Projects

13 - 1.4% Homework

11 - 1.1% Program didn't meet expectations

64 - 6.7% Others - frequency ranges from 1 to 10 includes classes not long enough, poor counseling, too strict, no sports or clubs.

3. Please list the things that caused you to enroll in this Magnet School Program.

Total number of comments - 1871

605 - 32.3% Magnet speciality - includes courses, activities and administrative procedures such as graduating early

239 - 12.8% Relative or friend influenced

159 - 8.5% Learn more - includes "better education," "advantages," opportunities"

124 - 6.6% Better than home school - includes "didn't like regular school," "was behind at regular school"

113 - 6.0% Prepration for college, career, future

100 - 5.3% School staff influenced - includes teacher, counselor, principal, coordinator

75 - 4.0% Students' academic level - includes progress at own pace, advanced class, accelerated pace, compete with students on my level, my abilities

66 - 3.5% Zoned to this Magnet School

57 - 3.0% Teachers - includes student/teacher relationships

46 - 2.5% Location - includes "near home" and "surrounding neighborhood"

46 - 2.5% Meet new people - includes "friends of different races"

41 - 2.2% Small classes

36 - 1.9% Good program - includes "sounded interesting," "new", "different", "fun"

31 - 1.7% Special activities - includes field trips

31 - 1.7% Recruitment efforts - includes by mail and school visits

17 - .9% School building - includes "cleaner," "larger," "new school"

14 - .7% Previously enrolled in a Magnet School

71 - 3.8% Others - response ranges from 1 to 10 - most frequent includes extra electives or credits, variety of courses, given more responsibility, atmosphere or environment

4. HISD is considering using business van pools to carry students to and from school. This would require those students to stay at school until the business employees left for home which would be later than the school's dismissal time. If you were involved in this program, which of the school activities, listed below, would be of interest to you?

	Good Idea		Poor Idea	
	N	%	N	%
Microcomputer labs N = 1762	1208	69	554	31
Team sports, such as soccer N = 1807	1402	78	405	22
Dance N = 1778	1183	67	595	34
Music N = 1792	1301	73	494	28
After school tutoring N = 1778	1398	78	394	22
Arts/crafts N = 1771	1220	69	558	31
Ecology & outdoor education N = 1738	1369	77	402	23

Drama N = 1764	1178	68	560	32
Science N = 1692	1155	66	609	35
Other (please specify)	1035	61	657	39

Other -

Total number of responses - 384

41 - Team sports

31 - Individual sports - includes self defense, swimming and aerobic dance

25 - Study hall

24 - Defensive driving/driver's education

21 - Music includes band, piano, chorus

18 - Auto mechanics

16 - Home economics

16 - Foreign languages

15 - Science - includes - science/chemistry, agriculture, oceanography elecronics

14 - Math

11 - Field Trips

10 - Business Courses

10 - Computer Science

10 - Photography

8 - Drill Team

7 - Cheerleading

7 - ROTC

7 - Sex education

6 - Communications

6 - Engineering

6 - Drafting

6 - Horseback riding

5 - Clubs

5 - Workshop

5 - Industrial Arts

4 - Psychology

4 - Cosmetology

4 - Careers

4 - History

19 - Others - response 1 to 3

5. If you were enrolled in a Magnet program and riding in a business van pool, what do you think about having your schools hours adjusted to fit the business's hours?

Good Idea		Poor Idea	
N	%	N	%
1008	57	769	43

N = 1777

O-1MS-CS3-17jk

HISD
Magnet School Task Force Survey
SECONDARY - NON-MAGNET
N = 2193

I. 1. In which school district do you live?

	N	%
HISD	2187	99.7
Non-HISD	6	.3

2. In which district do you attend school? N/A

3. What grade are you in?
N = 2187

Grade	N	%
6	28	1.3
7	352	16.1
8	431	19.7
9	329	15.0
10	288	13.2
11	366	16.7
12	393	18.0

4. Are you male? ___ female? ___
N = 2182

	N	%
Male	911	41.8
Female	1271	58.2

5. What is your race/national origin?

	N	%
White	732	34.4
Black	693	32.6
Hispanic	701	33.0

6. What school do you attend?

Middle/Junior Highs	N	%
Black	96	4.4
Cullen	48	2.2
Deady	51	2.3
Dowling	27	1.2
Edison	58	2.6
Fondren	32	1.5
Fonville	58	2.6
Henry	42	1.9
Hogg	55	2.5
Jackson	44	2.0
Johnston	58	2.6
Key	76	3.5
Long	22	1.0
Marshall	65	3.0
McReynolds	18	.8
Pershing	65	3.0
Ryan	60	2.7
Sharpstown	31	1.4
Terrell	112	5.1
Thomas	59	2.7
Senior High		
Austin	135	6.2
Furr	148	6.7

	N	%
Kahsmere	106	4.8
Lamar	109	5.0
Lee	98	4.5
Scarborough	62	2.8
Sharpstown	80	3.6
Waltrip	89	4.1
Westbury	134	6.1
Worthing	154	7.0

7. Are you zoned to this school? (Is this your home school?)
N = 2137

	Yes	No
N	1882	255
%	88.1	11.9

8. If you were to attend a Magnet program, in what section of town would you prefer?

		N	%
1.	Almeda	81	4.0
2.	Denver Harbor	41	2.0
3.	Downtown	164	8.2
4.	East End	123	6.1
5.	Fifth Ward	39	1.9
6.	Galleria	144	7.2
7.	Greenway	18	.9
8.	Gulfgate	120	6.0
9.	Heights	96	4.8
10.	Katy/Memorial	82	4.1

		N	%
11.	Montrose	20	1.0
12.	Northeast	114	5.7
13.	Northwest	176	8.8
14.	Pasadena/NASA	20	1.0
15.	Rice/Medical Center	84	4.2
16.	Sharpstown/Southwest	148	7.4
17.	Ship Channel	40	2.0
18.	South Park	166	8.3
19.	Third Ward/Macgregor	75	3.7
20.	Westbury/Meyerland	227	11.3
21.	Other	28	1.4

9. What is the zip code at your home? N/A

10. How long does it take you to get to school?

		Percent	
		Total N = 2151	Transfers N = 245
Minutes	1-15	74.2	44.5
	16-30	19.7	38.8
	31-45	3.7	8.2
	46-60	1.3	2.4
	61-75	.6	2.9
	76-90	.4	1.6
	91-105	< .1	.4
	106-120	< .1	0.0
	121-150	.1	1.2

11. Do you currently ride a bus?
N = 2169

	Yes	No
N	486	1683
%	22.4	77.6

12. Are you familiar with the Magnet School concept? (Select One)
N = 2137

	N	%
Very Familiar	354	16.6
Somewhat Familiar	823	38.5
Have heard of it, but not in any detail	798	37.3
Never heard of it	162	7.6

13. How did you receive your information about Magnet Schools?

	N	%
I have been enrolled in a Magnet School	222	10.1
T.V.	176	8.0
Newspaper	101	4.6
Know someone who attends a Magnt School	759	34.6
Other source: (Please specify:)	873	39.8
No information	241	11.0

Other Source

303 - School

151 - Teacher

122 - Recruitment effort (mail and school visits)

52 - Relative or friend

51 - Counselor

18 - Visited a Magnet School

5 - This survey

1 - Billboard

170 - did not specify

14. If you could transfer to any Magnet School, which program would be of interest to you. (Please check only one.)
N = 2140

	N	%
Aerodynamics	103	4.8
Careers	298	13.9
College Preparatory	171	8.0
Communications	169	7.9
Alternative Education	22	1.0
Ecology and Outdoor Education	75	3.5
Engineering	260	12.1
Fine Arts	250	11.7
Forign Language	58	2.7
Fundamental/Basic	16	.7
Health Professions	227	10.6
Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice	164	7.7
Math/Science	86	4.0
Petro-Chemical	29	1.4
Vanguard	40	1.9
Physical Development	123	5.7
Other (Please specify)	49	2.3

15. In choosing a Magnet School, which is more important? (Select one)

	N	Percent Responding: Location	Program	Length of time spent on the bus	Major race of school
Total	2104	23.5	65.7	2.4	8.4
Transfer	245	20.0	72.2	2.0	5.7
Non	1812	24.0	64.8	2.5	8.7
Bus	472	24.4	67.2	3.6	4.9
Non	1610	23.2	65.3	2.0	9.4
White	705	21.7	63.0	2.4	12.9
Black	669	24.7	67.0	1.8	6.6
Hispanic	669	24.4	67.3	2.8	5.5
SES High	815	19.6	66.4	2.2	11.8
Middle	702	27.5	64.1	2.3	6.1
Low	586	24.1	66.6	2.9	6.5
Junior/Middle	1055	24.8	65.1	2.3	7.8
Senior	1048	22.1	66.2	2.6	9.1

16. What was your combined academic average from the first semester of this year with A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0.
N = 2016

	N	%
4.0 - 3.5	538	26.7
3.4 - 2.5	922	45.7
2.4 - 1.5	493	24.5
1.4 - 0	63	3.1

II. For the following questions:

Total = All students who answered this question.

Transfer = All students who said they were not zoned to the school they attending (question 7)

Non-transfer - All students who answered yes to question 7 .

Bus - All students who answered yes to question 11.

Non-bus - All students who answered no to question 11.

SES - Socio economic status. The thirty schools were ranked by the percent of free and reduced lunch students attending the school and divided into three equal groups of ten each.

* - This indicates a difference of at least 9.0% within each sub-group.

1. I would learn about the same in a Magnet School than at my school.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2154	12.9	19.6	41.5	26.0
Transfer	247	12.5	19.9	41.8	25.8
Non-transfer	1855	14.6	16.6	41.3	27.5
Bus	472	13.1	21.2	43.4	22.2
Non-bus	1662	12.8	19.0	41.2	27.0
White	726	11.7	21.1	40.5	26.7
Black	683	14.1	18.6	42.0	25.3
Hispanic	681	12.9	18.9	42.4	25.7
SES High	836	13.6	20.3	39.6	26.4
Middle	733	13.6	19.8	40.7	25.9
Low	584	10.6	18.5	45.2	25.7
Middle/Junior	1063	12.8	19.9	42.2	25.0
Senior	1090	12.8	19.4	40.7	27.1

2. Graduating from a Magnet School Program rather than from my regular school would prepare me better to get a good job or to enter college.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2153	59.1	17.8	9.9	13.2
Transfer	248	60.5	18.1	11.3	10.1
Non-transfer	1854	59.1	17.9	9.4	13.6
Bus	474	65.4	14.1	9.7	10.8
Non-bus	1660	57.3	18.9	10.0	13.9
White	726	50.3	22.0	11.2	16.5
Black	682	61.4	16.0	11.4	11.1
Hispanic	681	65.6	15.0	7.3	12.0
SES High	835	*47.4	22.0	12.8	17.7
Middle	730	61.8	18.5	8.6	11.1
Low	587	72.4	11.1	7.3	9.2
Middle/Junior	1066	*68.5	14.0	7.8	9.8
Senior	1086	49.9	21.6	12.0	16.5

3. I am willing to miss after school activities such as clubs or sports because of Magnet School bus transportation.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2150	23.6	21.7	45.3	9.4
Transfer	247	26.3	17.8	44.5	11.3
Non-transfer	1851	23.5	22.0	45.6	8.9
Bus	475	*32.2	21.9	*36.8	9.1
Non-bus	1656	21.1	21.8	47.6	9.4

	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	728	*13.5	21.4	*58.9	6.2
Black	678	28.9	18.9	42.6	9.6
Hispanic	681	28.8	24.4	35.1	11.7
SES High	834	*16.9	20.0	*56.4	6.7
Middle	730	27.7	22.2	40.5	9.6
Low	585	28.0	23.4	35.6	13.0
Middle/Junior	1063	25.5	23.0	41.4	10.1
Senior	1086	21.7	20.3	49.2	8.7

4. I enjoy making friends with students of different races and nationalities.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2149	68.4	23.6	5.5	2.5
Transfer	248	*83.9	11.3	2.8	2.0
Non-transfer	1849	66.1	25.4	5.9	2.5
Bus	475	*77.7	17.3	2.7	2.3
Non-bus	1655	65.7	25.5	6.3	2.4
White	727	*50.5	38.7	8.4	2.5
Black	678	73.5	18.0	5.8	2.8
Hispanic	680	81.3	14.6	2.4	1.8
SES High	831	*56.8	33.3	7.6	2.3
Middle	731	74.1	18.6	4.7	2.6
Low	586	77.6	16.0	3.8	2.6
Middle/Junior	1065	71.2	21.3	5.2	2.3
Senior	1083	65.7	25.9	5.9	2.6

5. If I had to travel one hour or more to get a Magnet School I would stay in my regular school.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2143	47.2	17.8	23.7	11.3
Transfer	248	*35.5	21.8	31.0	11.7
Non-transfer	1842	48.8	17.4	22.9	11.0
Bus	471	*34.4	20.6	*32.7	12.3
Non-bus	1653	50.8	17.2	21.0	11.0
White	723	*65.1	14.0	*11.6	9.3
Black	674	41.7	17.8	28.3	12.2
Hispanic	681	34.8	21.1	31.7	12.3
SES High	833	*61.5	16.0	*13.7	8.9
Middle	724	45.9	20.0	23.3	10.8
Low	585	28.7	17.8	38.1	15.4
Middle/Junior	1062	*40.6	17.3	*29.6	12.5
Senior	1080	53.8	18.3	17.8	10.1

6. Involvement in a Magnet School program would benefit me academically.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2139	52.8	23.2	6.5	17.5
Transfer	247	49.8	27.5	8.5	14.2
Non-transfer	1840	53.3	22.8	6.2	17.7
Bus	471	56.7	21.9	5.9	15.5
Non-bus	1649	51.9	23.6	6.6	17.9

	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	725	48.7	25.5	6.9	18.9
Black	676	54.0	21.6	7.1	17.3
Hispanic	673	56.3	22.3	5.3	16.0
SES High	829	*48.0	24.2	8.1	19.7
Middle	725	53.8	23.3	5.1	17.8
Low	584	58.6	21.6	5.8	14.0
Middle/Junior	1061	56.0	23.1	5.7	15.2
Senior	1077	49.8	23.2	7.1	19.8

7. I would enjoy going to school more if I were in a Magnet program.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2134	22.4	28.1	24.4	25.2
Transfer	245	26.5	24.1	22.4	26.9
Non-transfer	1836	21.8	28.7	24.6	24.9
Bus	471	27.6	29.5	20.4	22.5
Non-bus	1644	20.7	27.9	25.4	26.0
White	722	17.2	28.9	27.8	26.0
Black	669	25.1	26.2	23.6	25.1
Hispanic	679	25.0	28.3	22.4	24.3
SES High	829	*16.4	28.6	28.6	26.4
Middle	721	24.3	28.6	23.2	24.0
Low	583	28.5	26.6	19.9	25.0
Middle/Junior	1059	*27.3	27.7	21.3	23.7
Senior	1074	17.5	28.4	27.4	26.7

8. Having only 20-25 students in Magnet class would help me learn more than in a regular classroom.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2138	47.4	24.1	16.9	11.6
Transfer	247	48.2	22.7	17.4	11.7
Non-transfer	1841	47.6	24.4	16.5	11.5
Bus	474	46.8	24.1	17.3	11.8
Non-bus	1645	47.2	24.3	16.8	11.6
White	728	*52.5	24.3	14.3	8.9
Black	670	43.1	24.6	20.6	11.6
Hispanic	676	47.2	22.9	16.0	13.9
SES High	832	50.6	26.0	14.8	8.7
Middle	722	48.2	24.4	16.5	10.9
Low	583	41.9	21.1	20.4	16.6
Middle/Junior	1061	45.6	22.4	17.6	14.3
Senior	1076	49.2	25.7	16.2	8.9

9. Magnet programs would be better if the speciality area was offered from elementary school to high school.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2130	39.2	24.9	13.9	21.9
Transfer	247	40.1	25.1	13.8	21.1
Non-transfer	1832	39.2	24.8	14.1	21.9
Bus	473	40.0	23.9	14.8	21.4
Non-bus	1637	38.9	25.4	13.7	22.1

	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	724	35.4	26.2	15.6	22.8
Black	671	42.3	21.8	14.9	21.2
Hispanic	672	42.3	26.3	10.6	20.8
SES High	831	38.3	25.3	14.7	21.8
Middle	717	42.1	22.2	15.3	20.4
Low	581	37.2	27.9	11.2	23.8
Middle/Junior	1057	36.3	27.6	13.5	22.5
Senior	1072	42.2	22.3	14.4	21.2

10. I would be encouraged to enroll in the Magnet School program because it provides special activities and learning opportunities that I can not get get at my school.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2142	58.9	21.3	10.5	9.3
Transfer	247	57.1	21.1	15.0	6.9
Non-transfer	1844	59.4	21.3	9.9	9.5
Bus	472	62.9	21.6	7.2	8.3
Non-bus	1650	57.8	21.3	11.4	9.5
White	726	56.9	24.0	10.5	8.7
Black	675	57.0	20.3	11.7	11.0
Hispanic	679	63.2	19.9	9.7	7.2
SES High	831	57.0	23.7	10.5	8.8
Middle	723	57.1	21.4	11.2	10.2
Low	587	63.9	17.9	9.4	8.9
Middle/Junior	1066	62.6	19.3	9.3	8.8
Senior	1075	55.3	23.3	11.5	9.8

11. The Magnet School's appearance would influence my decision to enroll there.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2132	35.5	27.3	24.2	13.0
Transfer	244	30.3	25.8	30.7	13.1
Non-transfer	1836	36.3	27.9	23.1	12.7
Bus	467	31.7	27.2	26.6	14.6
Non-bus	1645	36.6	27.4	23.5	12.6
White	728	*44.1	26.6	*19.0	10.3
Black	673	31.4	26.9	28.1	13.7
Hispanic	669	31.4	28.0	26.3	14.3
SES High	833	*41.1	26.2	21.1	11.6
Middle	717	32.2	28.6	26.1	13.1
Low	581	31.7	27.2	26.2	15.0
Middle/Junior	1058	34.1	28.6	23.8	13.4
Senior	1073	36.9	25.9	24.5	12.7

12. The appearance of the Magent School's surrounding neighborhood would influence my decision to enroll there.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2123	40.7	25.4	21.6	12.3
Transfer	244	*32.8	26.2	26.2	14.8
Non-transfer	1827	41.8	25.5	20.8	12.0
Bus	469	34.1	27.7	25.2	13.0
Non-bus	1635	42.4	24.6	20.7	12.2

	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
White	724	*56.9	23.3	*11.7	8.0
Black	670	34.9	24.0	26.3	14.8
Hispanic	666	30.3	28.2	27.5	14.0
SES High	832	*51.1	23.8	*15.3	9.9
Middle	710	38.3	25.2	25.6	10.8
Low	580	29.0	27.8	25.7	17.6
Middle/Junior	1057	37.3	27.1	22.0	13.6
Senior	1065	44.2	23.7	21.1	11.0

13. The race of the majority of the students at the Magnet School would influence my decision to enroll there.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2129	26.0	25.7	38.4	10.0
Transfer	243	*13.6	25.5	*48.6	12.3
Non-transfer	1835	27.4	25.8	37.2	9.6
Bus	467	*17.8	25.1	*47.3	9.9
Non-bus	1642	28.1	25.9	36.0	10.0
White	725	*40.8	28.6	*23.3	7.3
Black	672	20.5	25.1	43.9	10.4
Hispanic	669	16.9	23.0	48.6	11.5
SES High	830	*35.1	27.6	*29.5	7.8
Middle	713	24.7	25.5	39.3	10.5
Low	585	14.7	23.1	49.9	12.3
Middle/Junior	1063	*20.7	26.2	42.4	10.7
Senior	1065	31.3	25.2	34.4	9.2

14. Having an extra class as an extended day class or 8th period in which I would learn more in my Magnet area would influence my decision to enroll there.

		Percent Responding			
	N	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't Know
Total	2132	28.1	25.2	32.6	14.0
Transfer	244	23.8	25.8	34.8	15.6
Non-transfer	1836	29.0	25.1	32.3	13.7
Bus	469	24.9	27.1	33.9	14.1
Non-bus	1643	28.8	24.8	32.4	14.0
White	727	*33.0	27.0	28.2	11.8
Black	674	27.9	21.1	36.8	14.2
Hispanic	669	23.9	26.8	33.3	16.0
SES High	832	30.4	26.0	31.4	12.3
Middle	713	26.2	26.1	34.6	13.0
Low	568	27.3	23.0	32.1	17.6
Middle/Junior	1063	28.0	25.6	32.0	14.4
Senior	1068	28.3	24.8	33.3	13.6

III. Comments for questions 1, 2, and 3 were taken from sixteen of the schools in the sample. They are Black, Dowling, Fondren, Fonville, Johnston, Ryan, Sharpstown Middle, Terrell, Thomas Austin, Furr, Lamar, Lee, Scarborough, Sharpstown Senior, and Waltrip.

1. What are the major strengths of the HISD Magnet School Program.

Total number of comments - 768

241 - Preparation for college, career, future
31.4%

182 - Magnet speciality - includes specific courses and the idea of in-depth
23.7% training or learning more in a certain area

170 - Learn more
22.1%

60 - Small classes
7.8%

17 - Good learning environment - includes "treat you better," makes you want to learn"

17 - More opportunities - includes better opportunities, benefits and advantages

15 - Meet new people - includes "on same level" and "with similar interests"

15 - Greater variety of courses

12 - More special activities

12 - Accelerated courses - includes "progressing at own pace"

9 - Special equipment, materials, facilities

4 - Provides transportation

2. What are the major weaknesses of the HISD Magnet School Program?

Total number of comments - 687

171 - Transportation - includes (55) too long on bus
24.9%

156 - Located too far away
22.7%

99 - Location - includes implication that locations are undesirable
14.4%

60 - Long hours
8.7%

47 - Too few Magnet Schools
6.8%

45 - No extra curricular or after school activities - includes (23)
6.6% no sports

37 - More publicity needed
5.4%

20 - Racial problems - includes (7) in all Black schools, (6) being
2.9% the minority

15 - Poor academic program

8 - Too much homework/school work

8 - Teachers - includes lack of good teachers

7 - Letting in students who aren't really interested in the program

6 - Miss friends

4 - Overcrowded

3. Please list the things that would cause you to enroll in an HISD Magnet School Program.

Total number of comments - 1053

222 - Magnet specialty
21.1%

181 - Location - includes (25) good surroundings and (92) "close to home"
17.2%

140 - Preparation for college, career, future
13.3%

88 - Learn more - includes "better" education
8.4%

60 - Teachers
5.7%

56 - School - includes the reputation, "nice school" and its appearance
5.3%

36 - Students - includes nice, friendly, disciplined
3.4%

35 - Small classes
3.3%

29 - Major race of school - includes (8) races in equal numbers
2.8%

28 - Transportation available

23 - Meet new people - includes students with similar interests and of different races

23 - Good program

20 - Sports available

23 - Special activities/opportunities

22 - Friends attend also

15 - Hours involved

12 - Academics

9 - Accelerated pace - includes (3) progressing at own pace

8 - Better environment

7 - Special equipment, materials, facilities

6 - If didn't like home home school

6 - Student/Teacher relationships

4 - Fun

N.B.

It should be noted that a very large number of students indicated that they could not answer these three questions because they did not know enough about Magnet Schools.

4. HISD is considering using business van pools to carry students to and from school. This would require those students to stay at school until the business employees left for home which would be later than the school's dismissal time. If you were involved in this program, which after school activities listed below, would be of interest to you?

		Percent Responding	
	N	Good Idea	Poor Idea
Microcomputer labs	1683	54.9	45.1
Team sports, such as soccer	1751	75.3	24.7
Dance	1742	66.3	33.7
Gymnastics	1715	72.5	27.5
Music	1704	72.9	27.1
After school tutoring	1682	64.4	35.6

	N	Good Idea	Poor Idea
Art/crafts	1688	70.7	29.3
Ecology and outdoor education	1670	61.7	38.3
Drama	1633	61.6	38.4
Science	1528	52.4	47.6
Other (please specify)	See below		

Other

Only topics which were mentioned five times or more are reported here.

59 - Sports - includes team sports and individual such as Karate, swimming, muscle building, and aerobic dance

11 - Photography

11 - Law Enforcement

11 - Communications/Journalism

9 - Business Education

8 - Medicine/Health professions

8 - Music

6 - Computer Science

6 - Auto mechanics

5 - FFA

5 - Metal shop/Wood shop

5 - Engineering

5 - Debate/Speech

5. If you were enrolled in a Magnet program and riding in a business van pool, what do you think about having your school hours adjusted to fit the business' hours?

	Percent Responding	
N	Good Idea	Poor Idea
1914	62.3	39.7